692 cases if the defendant is a Bahrain citizen and the plaintiff is a foreigner the case is heard in a Joint Court. The language of the Bahrain Courts is Arabic and no barristers or wakils who are not Bahrainis are allowed to appear in them.

417 At the eastern end of the sea road[1] is the Adviserate, the Ruler deals with affairs of State in this office on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Beyond the Adviserate is H.B.M.'s Political Agency which was built early in the century.

743 At the western end of the Sea Road is the Government Hospital. It includes a men's and women's hospital, administrative offices, X-Ray, laboratories, operating theatres and out-patients' rooms. There are beds for men and for women, with a few private rooms in each section. The Indian Staff occupy a large three storied building close to the hospital and behind the Women's Hospital is the house of the British nursing sisters. On Awal Road there is a large Public Health Office and beyond it a T.B. Sanatorium and a Mental Hospital. Opposite the Police Fort there are also two small isolation hospitals. In Muharraq there is a maternity hospital in the centre of the town and a clinic on the sea front. In Hedd and in some of the villages there are also small clinics. The Government Medical Staff includes a number of British and Indian doctors and nurses.

871 Education in Bahrain is not, at present, compulsory, but every year
658 the number of boys' and girls' schools increases. The oldest school in Bahrain is the Muharraq Boys' School in North Muharraq town, which was built in 1919, and there are now 28 government schools including village schools, town schools, a boys' secondary school, and a technical school where carpentry and engineering are taught. At the beginning of the 1952-53 term there were 4000 boys and 2,500 girls attending government schools. Except in the secondary school, education is free and every year scholarships are given by the Government and BAPCO to enable students to obtain advanced education at the American University of Beirut. There is a students' hostel in Manama which accommodates about 100 boys, here students from the villages and other towns are housed while they attend the more advanced town schools.

[875] Most of the teachers are Bahrainis though there are a certain number of teachers from neighbouring Arab countries. English is taught in the higher classes as well as the usual subjects. All the schools close during the summer from about the middle of June till the end of September. Some of the government schools are among the most noticeable of the modern buildings in Manama.

871 In addition to the Government schools there are a number of private schools including a European day school at Awali, Catholic, Persian and Indian schools in Manama and a girls school run by the mission of the Dutch reformed Church of America. The Oil Company also has a trade school for its Arab employees.

[1] [at Manama -- Analyst]

to buy liquor for their own use. In Awali liquor is sold through the medium of BAPCO, while residents in Manama must apply for a permit to buy liquor from H.B.M.'s Political Agent. 273

It is a serious offence in Bahrain for a Moslem to be found in possession of liquor, or "under the influence" and it is also illegal for non-Moslems in possession of liquor to give or sell it to Moslems.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

There are in Bahrain a number of private and public hospitals, as well as dentists, doctors and chemists. 743 ●

For the benefit of the people of Bahrain the State Department of Health maintains a number of medical institutions in various parts of Bahrain. At the western end of Manama is the Naim Hospital for men and women, containing both public and private wards and equipped to deal with all emergencies. This hospital is used by the foreign community, except those employed by BAPCO, as well as by the people of the country. Also in Manama there are isolation hospitals, a mental hospital, a T.B. Sanatorium and the Office of Public Health. There are also State Hospitals in Muharraq and Hedd and dispensaries in the three towns and various villages. 657

For the use of its employees, both Bahraini and foreign, BAPCO has two hospitals in Awali.

The oldest hospital in Bahrain is that run by the mission of the Dutch Reformed Church of America in Shaikh Isa Road, Manama. This hospital contains both public and private wards. There are also several dentists and doctors practising privately in Manama. [797]

RATES OF POSTAGE 205

	Letters	Rs.	As.
Inland:	Not exceeding 1 oz. or fraction thereof	0	1½
	For each additional oz.	0	1
Foreign:			
Seamail:			
	Kuwait, Dubai and Muscat, not exceeding 1 oz. or fraction thereof	0	1½
	For each additional oz.	0	1
	Great Britain and Eire, British Empire and territories under British Mandate, U.S.A. and Egypt, not exceeding 1 oz. or fraction thereof	0	2½
	For each additional oz.	0	1
	All other countries, not exceeding 1 oz. or fraction thereof	0	4
	For each additional oz.	0	2½
Airmail:			
	Europe, per half oz. or fraction thereof	0	6
	Australia, New Zealand, per half oz. or fraction thereof	0	12
	Canada, U.S.A., per half oz. or fraction thereof	1	0
	India, per half oz. or fraction thereof	0	6
	Saudi Arabia, Irak, Cyprus, Dubai, Egypt, Lebanon, Kuwait, Syria and Jordan, per half oz. or part thereof	0	3½

DIVING INDUSTRY

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There is little to report on this subject. Under present conditions it seems probable that in a few years the diving Nakhudas will find that it is impossible to obtain any recruits for diving in Bahrain. During the season only 12 boats went out to the banks from Bahrain and most of the divers who were engaged were from Persia and the Trucial Coast. So much money can be earned on shore that few men are willing to leave their shore jobs in order to dive during the summer months.

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The tax on imported pearls imposed by the Government of India was in force throughout and after the diving season and this contributed to a large extent to the slackness in the pearl trade. Taking into consideration the small number of boats employed in diving the catch was moderately good and pearl prices were not much lower than in the previous season.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

1372

(Report by Dr. R. H. B. Snow, M.B.E., Senior Medical Officer)

Summary of the Year

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A change is gradually infiltrating and making itself evident in the scope and policy of medical work which is increasing in every department and subconsciously affecting the life of the Island. Traditions are now being established which the new generation are growing up with, and health ideas which once were revolutionary are now accepted as the normal course of reasonable upbringing.

657

The medical department which started in a small way, and expanded slowly is seeing results which are very satisfying but which are taken for granted, although they took years of striving to achieve. From its small beginnings and tiny nucleus of key staff it has now spread out from something rather personal to more of a departmental outlook. This in the course of things is bound to be, but its danger is that lack of co-ordination may develop or that the department may absorb the individual expression. At present there seems to be no signs of this because the various heads of departments meet together continually to exchange ideas and align themselves in a common policy, and also they are readily accessible to the public.

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Lines of expansion have shown themselves everywhere. The surgical work has been given great impetus by the advent of an F.R.C.S. specialist, Mr. R. D. Wilkins.

The operation theatre now runs a staff rota for every 24 hours of the day, made possible by recruiting Sister Ford and Sister Johnson from England. Sister Edwards was appointed to the Nursing Home to replace Sister Millson. The X-Ray department has an English Radiographer in charge—Mr. Havey. The Laboratory has a staff of six technicians. Four new Indian doctors arrived, one lady doctor for the Women's Hospital, and the others, male, were appointed to the Boys' Schools, The Port, and the Hospital. Mr. Burgin replaced Mr. Hanvey as Public Health Inspector, and Mr. Nambiar became the new Anti-Malaria Supervisor. Both hospitals recruited many more Indian trained nurses. The lack of sufficient staff has now been made good and at present meets all needs which recently have been very pressing. It means also that more specialised apparatus could be installed being safely handled by expert hands. Such things include a more powerful X-Ray plant, a modern anaesthetic apparatus to administer all gases and curare, an electro-cautery unit and an electro-cardiograph.

The Geneva T.B. project for Bahrain very unfortunately was cancelled owing to changes of policy and financial aid in the World Health Organisation. This severely dislocated the programme to meet this problem. However, a modified scheme has been evolved making use of the ideas of Geneva and London and will be launched next year when in-patient accommodation will be considerably increased. The number of patients seen this year and treated were 275 men and 87 women. Many were foreigners and returned to their countries. Ninety were admitted and a few promising patients sent to Miraj Sanatorium. It is very satisfactory to report that those treated in Bahrain are showing greater improvement than in the past due to better drugs and surgery. A few have been in hospital for two years. 743 758

The Bahrain Medical Society had a good year of meetings and the annual Persian Gulf conference at Kuwait was well attended from Bahrain and again proved most worth while. The co-operation of doctors and hospitals up and down the Persian Gulf is a noteworthy feature not only on account of valuable mutual aid, but of interchange of knowledge on problems common to all. This also applies to medical officers of the R.A.F. and Royal Navy. 759

The hot weather was of average intensity with no heat exhaustion cases except from ships and these numbered 36 with 2 deaths. This has been causing considerable concern among all medical officers in the Gulf dealing with ships who report similarly, and as this department admits many to hospital it has now assumed some importance here. Certain shipping lines provide adequate facilities, and others do not, among which are certain British ships. The matter was taken up in a personal interview with the Chief Medical Officer, Port of London, where it was found that air conditioning might be considered but has not come into force yet. One air conditioned emergency room on each ship would greatly solve the problem and this is a matter needing prior attention. 758 743

The health of the Islands for the year was again well maintained with no epidemics or serious outbreaks of disease. 164

Miss W. E. Millson. Sister-in-Charge Nursing Home and Operating Theatre. 000

It was with great regret that we accepted the resignation of Sister Millson who left to go to New Zealand in June 1953.

She had completed six and a half years of service in three contracts and been the first British Sister for this post.

By sheer hard work and selfless service she tackled these exacting dual duties with great determination and was not daunted by insufficient staff and ever increasing work.

She made a wonderful success of it, and her work will not be forgotten.

BAHRAIN GOVERNMENT MALE DISPENSARIES

	Muharraq	**E. Rafaa*	*W. Rafaa*	*Sitra*	*Karzakan*	*Aali*	*Total*
Total Patients	29080	1582	3047	3252	2339	3415	41815
New Patients	12274	670	1252	1011	1159	1392	17758
Old Patients	16806	912	1795	1341	1180	2043	24077
Schools	7399	357	—	1195	785	1148	10884
Opthalmia	1518	76	[illegible]	135	150	196	2263
Malaria	328	3	17	10	18	19	395
Venereal Disease	134	3	5	68	13	7	230
Dysentery	189	19	40	16	27	34	325
Worms	758	58	143	122	139	128	1348
T.B.	24	1	3	3	7	3	41
Minor Operations	1003	—	—	—	—	—	1003
Injections	764	21	94	478	204	104	1665
Vaccinations	56	—	140	—	115	—	309

* = *Newly opened.*

FEMALE STATISTICS

Report by Dr. I. M. A. Doeg, Lady Medical Officer.

During the year the need for increased accommodation for women patients has made itself increasingly felt. This is more particularly so in the Maternity Department where on several occasions extra beds and "shake downs" have had to be provided to accommodate the overflow of patients beyond the full capacity of the present wards. As regards private room accommodation this has for a long time been completely inadequate for our numbers. In most instances the midwifery cases are remaining in hospital only 7 or 8 days instead of 10 days as formerly—but even so the beds are always full.

During the year a third Indian Lady Doctor has come and the Nursing Staff has been increased enabling us to have two nurses on night duty.

An Ante-natal Clinic has been started on Wednesday evenings from 5—7 p.m. and from the outset has been very well attended.

The Clinics in Muharraq Dispensary have been trebled.

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bazaar, a movie theatre, branches of the Eastern Bank and the Imperial Bank of Persia, a post office, a broadcasting station and a single gas station.

Little by little Manama is being modernized and the houses built by the Standard Oil Company for its American and British employees serve as models for the natives in the improvement of their own. There are three hospitals, one operated by the Bahrein Oil Company; a second, for men and women, with a British staff, by the government; and the third by the Arabia Mission of the Dutch Reformed Church in America. However, the facilities of these few establishments are quite limited and even under normal conditions 85% of the population suffers from one or more ailments.

The diseases endemic in Bahrein are malaria, the entire group of fevers, dysentery both amoebic and bacillary, bilharzia, trachoma and ankylostomiasis. At the head of the list should go the entire family of venereal diseases. Prostitution, forbidden in Saudi Arabia, has increased greatly under the complacent eyes of the authorities and Bahrein has become a kind of "pleasure island" where thousands of native and foreign employees of the oil companies from Arabia spend their leaves and money buying cheap pleasure, drinking arak, a 100 proof, colorless distillation of dates, contributing to vice and the propagation of disease.

The island is liable to epidemics of plague and cholera. From 1905 to 1911 Bahrein was visited every second year by plague and during the epidemic of 1911, in Manama, Muharraq and adjacent villages alone, more than two thousand persons died. Since World War I international control of plague and more vigorous quarantine measures by the British administration have limited the recurrence of this disease. Since 1920 epidemics of plague have occurred only at five year intervals.

Cholera epidemics are less frequent, probably because the water supply is less open to contamination than formerly. However, last year's epidemic was as serious in Bahrein as in the other ports of the Persian Gulf.

63:Simmons et al G-8 (1941-1951) 1954
MI Middle East
BAHREIN M22

spraying campaign. The existing species have not been determined: several are probably implicated in the spread of intestinal and eye infections. All forms of human lice are present. Numerous species of fleas occur, including presumably *Xenopsylla cheopis*, the usual vector of plague, which was frequently epidemic in the past.

Food Sanitation

The sanitary supervision of the markets, coffee shops, bakeries and other premises where foods are prepared or sold is the responsibility of the municipal authorities in Manama and Muharraq. Little governmental control has been attempted, but the new public health division plans to develop inspection services. Most of the meat used is imported, and is not subject to inspection in Bahrain. There are slaughterhouses, however, in Manama and Muharraq which are operated under the supervision of the municipal officers. No regulations exist governing the sale of milk. It is obtained from small herds of goats, and is often contaminated.

HEALTH SERVICES AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

Health Organizations

The Public Health Department of the Bahrain government is responsible for the protection of the health of the inhabitants and the enforcement of international quarantine regulations. It is administered by the Chief Medical Officer, whose headquarters are located at Manama. The department came into being in 1936, when the government hospital was erected, but, with the exception of malaria control measures, its functions were concerned primarily with the operation of medical care facilities until its reorganization in 1952. In that year, public health services were developed within the department, which now incorporates separate curative and preventive divisions. The port health authority, formerly under the Indian Medical Services, was taken over by

p. 260(4)

744 the Bahrain government in 1948, and transferred to the Public Health Department in 1952. There are no local health services, but constituted municipal authorities in Manama, Muharraq and Hedd oversee the sanitation in their respective towns.

744 A quarantine medical officer is attached
648 to the headquarters staff of the British Resident for the Persian Gulf at Bahrain. He advises with the different local governments and supervises the conduct of international quarantine regulations in the Persian Gulf area.

747 The Board of Foreign Missions of the
743 Reformed Church of America supports hospitals for men and women at Manama, and carries on an active medical program among the people of the islands. The Bahrain Petroleum Company maintains a hospital and dispensaries for the benefit of its Bahraini and other personnel, and co-operates with the government medical services in its mosquito control campaign. A Persian Gulf Medical Society was organized at Bahrain in 1945 for the interchange of information among the doctors in the region.

Medical Institutions

743 **Hospitals and Dispensaries.** In 1951, the government medical service operated 2 general hospitals at Manama—a hospital for men, with a capacity of 60 beds; and a separate unit for women, with a capacity of 34 beds. It also maintained isolation hospitals for men and women, with 12 and 16 beds, respectively; a tuberculosis hospital for men with 13 beds; a mental hospital with accommodations for 25 men and women; and, on one of the islands, a quarantine hospital which had 20 permanent beds and facilities for expansion in case of need. Women's clinics were conducted at Muharraq and Hedd; the former had 16 beds for maternity cases and the latter, 3 beds. In addition to the clinic services connected with the general hospitals, dispensaries were established for men at Muharraq, Hedd, Sitra, Karzakkan and West Rafaa and for women at East Rafaa,

Sukal Khamis and Karaakkan. Venereal disease and trachoma clinics were carried on in the boys' schools, and regular school health services in the girls' schools. 741

The Reformed Church of America started a medical mission in Manama at the end of the last century. Its Mason Memorial Hospital has sections for men and women which, in 1951, had a combined capacity of 100 beds, as well as outpatient clinics. 747 743

The Bahrain Petroleum Company maintains a hospital at Awali for the care of its employees. The division for the British and the American staff had a capacity of 40 beds in 1951, while that for the Arab and the Indian personnel had a capacity of 70 beds. The Company also operates dispensaries at its refinery and in the towns of Manama and Sitra. 743

Laboratories. A laboratory which undertakes examinations for all the government institutions is connected with the men's hospital in Manama. It has facilities for the performance of microscopic, bacteriologic, serologic and biochemical tests. Serologic, bacteriologic and clinical laboratories are attached to the hospital of the oil company in Awali. Clinical facilities are also available in the mission hospital. X-ray departments are incorporated in the government and the industrial hospitals. 742

Schools. No schools for the training of medical personnel exist in Bahrain, but plans are under consideration for the development of a course for the training of nurses in the government hospitals at Manama. Medical assistants are trained in all the general hospitals. 174 185

Personnel

Physicians. Twenty-four British, American and Indian doctors were associated with hospitals in Bahrain in 1952. Of this number, 11 were in the government hospitals, 2 in the mission hospital and 11 in the oil industry hospital. A few Indian doctors are engaged in private practice in the town of Manama. 759

Dentists. One dentist is engaged by the

63:Simmons et al G-5 (1941-1951) 1954
M1 Middle East
BAHRAIN MZ 2

Responsibility for the protection of the health of the people resides in the Public Health Department of the Bahrain government. It has curative and preventive divisions, and is administered by a Chief Medical Officer with headquarters in Manama. Four general hospitals—government, mission and industrial—with an aggregate capacity of 324 beds were functioning in 1951. In addition, the government services operated 5 special hospitals with 86 beds, maternity clinics and scattered dispensaries for men and women. Water supplies are obtained from large numbers of artesian wells, as well as from springs and shallow wells. The town of Manama has a piped artesian supply which serves over 70 per cent of the houses. Sewage is disposed of by primitive methods, and most well and spring water sources are polluted.

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p. 265(A)

64: Shwadran S-4 (no date) 1955 MI Middle East
Bahrain M22

one went to the Sheikh for the maintenance of his household and family; one was for current Government expenses and development projects; and one for investments abroad as a reserve for future contingencies. With the increase in income—directly from oil revenue and indirectly from customs duties—as a result of the Company's activities, Government services increased and a number of development projects were undertaken. By 1951 there were three hospitals on the islands—the American Mission Hospital and the Company hospital mentioned above, a Government hospital for men and women operated by a British staff, including a section for the mentally ill—as well as a number of municipal clinics. General health conditions were not good: malaria and other fevers and dysentery were prevalent; bilharzia, trachoma and hookworm took a heavy toll; and above all, a large proportion of the population was infected with venereal diseases. Medical services were supplied to every Bahreini free of charge.

Though there had been some educational facilities before the development of the oil industry,[22] it was not until 1934 that the Government engaged a number of Iraqi teachers and enlarged the facilities. By 1951 there were nine elementary schools, one secondary school, founded in 1940, and one school for girls opened in 1939, all tuition-free. The schools were staffed with 258 teachers, who instructed some 6,000 boys and girls. The Government, in conjunction with the Company, also provided scholarships to graduates of the secondary schools for study abroad.

The Government built roads, bridges, harbors and a large airport; water was supplied from artesian wells instead of being brought in by boat; and efforts were made to improve housing conditions. Though without a single newspaper in 1951, Bahrein had a broadcasting station, built in 1940 for Allied war purposes, a dial telephone system, forty miles of roads and 2,000 automobiles. Most of the streets of the main towns were electrically lighted, and a sewerage system had been installed. The net result was a higher standard of living for the Bahreinis, not only in comparison with their own pre-oil standard, but also with the people of the neighboring states.[23]

[22] In 1926 there was one school for boys only, and it was poorly attended. James Bell, "He Said Forward! to the Backward," *Life*, Nov. 17, 1952.
[23] U.N., *Summary 1952-53*, 58-59; Sanger, *The Arabian Peninsula*, 148-149;